

REMARKS

In the last Action, restriction was required between Group I, claims 13-18 drawn to an apparatus; and Group II, claims 1-12 and 19-20 drawn to an apparatus and method. The Examiner stated that the two inventions are patentably distinct from each other, thereby making restriction proper. Applicant was required to elect one of the two inventions for further prosecution in this application.

In response to the restriction requirement, applicant has provisionally elected Group II drawn to an apparatus and method, and submits that claims 1-12 and 19-20 are readable on the elected invention. The non-elected claims have been retained in the application pending possible withdrawal of the restriction requirement or applicant's decision to pursue the subject matter thereof in a continuing application.

In light of the foregoing, early and favorable action
on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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MAILING CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Donna Riccardulli

Name



Signature

DECEMBER 7, 2005

Date